The Temple Artisan

SEPTEMBER, 1918

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Mysticism and Social Science

PUBLISHED AT
HALCYON, CALIFORNIA

Price, 10 Cents $1.00 Per Year

THE TEMPLE

PRIMARILY, The Temple is a cosmic organic centre, the constituent parts of which are the units of collective humanity.

Coincident with the original impulse, the first emanation from the Central Spiritual Sun—the Universal Heart—came into manifestation, the Father-Mother-Son, the triangular corner stone of The Temple, upon which is rising, age by age, a geometrically perfect edifice. The cap stones to the pillars of the porch, and the outer walls are now being laid, preliminary to the work of the roof-builders—the humanity of the sixth great root-race.

The place of each stone is determined by the law of selection, and the same law determines the different Degrees and Orders which lead to and from the great Stone of Sacrifice which rests upon the pavement of the Central Square.

The development of outer conditions, planes and personalities must keep pace with and correspond to the development of the interior man, or evolutionary force would be diverted from its proper channels.

When the Craftsman or Apprentice to any Degree has finished his term of service, and has mastered all the details of the work, he is "recognized" by the Master Builder, and raised to a higher Degree, although he may never be conscious of the presence of that Master, until his apprenticeship is completed, and he in turn becomes a Master of a lower Degree.

The organization of The Temple, the members of which belong by evolutionary right to a certain Degree of Cosmic Life, which Degree is subdivided into seven Orders, is the continuation and expansion of the work of the Masters revivified in this country a quarter of a century ago by certain chelas or disciples.

To the efforts of the Masters is due the impulse which has caused the great advance in scientific, philosophical and social endeavor; for they are the guardians of Ancient Wisdom and Knowledge, in which lies the root of all progress; and the work of The Temple is to cultivate and embody the highest principles of all such endeavor in one stupendous living organic whole.

It is a common belief that the fires on the altars of the Ancient Temples have been permitted to die out: but "those who know" say this is not true; that they are but hidden from the view of the masses, awaiting the time when the veil of ignorance and corruption hanging before the hearts of the humanity of this transitory period, shall be rent asunder, and the light of the ages become manifest to all. The time is comparatively close at hand when the doors of "The Temple of the Mysteries" shall once more swing outward. The Site of that once wonderful structure has been rediscovered, and when the Lord, the Saviour, the Elder Brother of the human race once more reappears to claim his own, He will find a place prepared for him by those who, having heard this call, "Come over and help us," have faithfully responded, and have taken up their share of the burden of responsibility. Are you of that number?

Address THE TEMPLE, Halcyon, California.

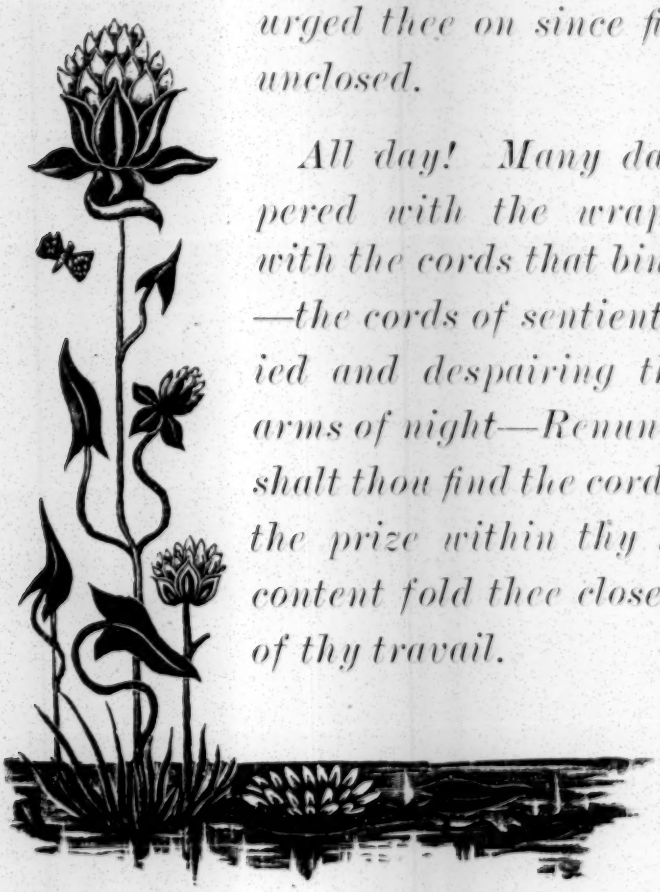
The Temple Artisan

Vol. XIX. SEPTEMBER, 1918 No. 4

Behold, I give **unto thee a key.**

THE WINGS OF NIGHT

Not until the wings of night close down upon thy soul will thou seek aright the prize for which men die and live again—the heart's desire—that which has urged thee on since first thine inner eye unclosed.



All day! Many days, hast thou tampered with the wrappings and striven with the cords that bind that hidden prize—the cords of sentient life. When wearied and despairing thou shalt seek the arms of night—Renunciation's Self, there shalt thou find the cords are all unloosed—the prize within thy hand. Then shall content fold thee close and peace be born of thy travail.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF TEMPLE WORKERS.

The usual meeting prior to the regular sessions was held in the Halcyon parlors Saturday evening of the 3rd with all visiting and local members attending. This Saturday evening meeting is always of a social nature, with music and other entertainment as features. During the evening A. W. Neale gave several interesting readings enjoyed by all.

The program for the various Convention meetings was read at this session. Refreshments were served by the Reception Committee.

FIRST MEETING OF THE CONVENTION.

A piano selection was rendered by Edgar Cheatham. Dr. Dower then formally opened the meeting by invoking the blessings of the Masters of Light and Wisdom on all meetings and deliberations.

This was followed by a quartette singing a hymn composed by Mrs. F. A. La Due, "God Is in His Holy Temple." The "Words of Force" were then recited, and the "Great Unifier" and "Convocation Hymn" sung by all.

Mrs. F. A. La Due, the Guardian in Chief, being too ill to attend the meeting, The Master's Message to the Convention was read by Dr. Dower.

CONVENTION MESSAGE OF THE MASTER HILARION.

My Children of many Nations, many climes, yet of one blood, one Spiritual Parentage; you who plead for peace:—believe me there never can be peace upon the earth for any length of time until one ideal dominates the present human races, the Ideal of Universal Brotherhood, and not until a single language is adopted by all nations.

Into the nucleus of this last effort of ours we, the Initiates of the White Brotherhood, have striven to draw together certain representatives of the dominant races of the earth in order to secure a working force for the purpose of bringing about right relations between man and man.

Instead of catching and holding the great vision presented to them, all too many selfish, exclusive units of the organizations which have sprung from the original nucleus have antagonized each other and also the units of other organizations to such a degree that there is now only a semblance of peace between them. In this most critical age of the world's progress, the many organizations designed to change the conditions of the unenlightened masses for the better are hot-beds of denunciation and hyper-criticism, the influence of which is to throw open the individual aura of each unit to the disruptive

action of the Brothers of the Shadow, who are always agents of the destructive forces of the universe.

Every unit of those organizations who, because of some personal idiosyncracy, refuses to do his or her part toward breaking down the barriers of race, creed, custom or environment, in order that the spirit of conservation and co-ordination may enter and abide, is consciously or unconsciously, blocking the way for the forces of reconstruction.

When the lives of peoples and institutions are at stake, it is sad to see those whom we have striven to prepare for the study of practical occultism being unconsciously dominated by the same spirit that is primarily responsible for the acts of men and women who are now maddened by blood-lust and self-aggrandizement—The Spirit of the Great Disintegrator of the present age.

Side by side, as it were, the constructive and destructive forces of this age are setting in action their etheric doubles—higher orders of Elementals—and every human being is compelled, whether he will or nay, to become a vehicle for the introduction and dissemination of the influences of the elemental forces set free by one or the other of those Orders. There is no question of choice as to place on either line, neither is there a neutral point upon which a stand may be made by the indifferent. The character, the ideals, the will and desires of each individual soul will be the determining factors in the placing of each soul on one side or the other. As the executors of the evolutionary laws carry out the edicts of the ruling powers, just so the executors of the same Law decide corresponding points on other lines for the organizations previously referred to.

The men and women who are under the dominion of, and who therefore are serving the destructive forces which are striking at the very root of all civilization today, will perform like services for the same powers within the organizations to which they belong, in their families and in all their social relations. Only by a definite act of will, whereby they have placed themselves, their all, in the field of constructive service, can they escape the slavery of the negative powers of nature, pre-eminently active in the present era.

The drifter, the constant doubter, the deceiver, will have no power of choice, his desires will not be pure enough and strong enough to arouse his Spiritual Will to definite action. In such instances, the personality must inevitably fall into the current set free by the agents of the destructive forces in this era of disintegration. The Souls of men are in the furnace; they are being tried as they have not been tried in many centuries, and the Law will set each individual on one side or the other of the Stream of Universal Progress. Every enlightened soul must face itself up in the Silence and endeavor to learn its real purpose, its standing, its objective point, and also to learn whether that point lies in the field of constructive or destructive work, if desirous of taking the next upward step on the ladder of Spiritual Wisdom.

Bear well in mind, the constructive and destructive forces of manifested life are spiritual entities of tremendous power, and the higher grades of elemental beings previously referred to are emanations from the said entities. They are primarily active on the Etheric plane and secondarily active in the elementals of the lower Astral plane. They are not mere abstractions—nameless, formless, consciousless figments of the human brain. Every conscious act instigated by Will and Mind is brought to fulfillment by their action.

Notwithstanding the sincere efforts of the devotees of Scientific Research

and the partial success they have met in many fields, it was not until a certain number of the Initiates of the White Lodge formed the nucleus of an organization which was fated to reach into every nation of the world and carry the Truths of the Wisdom Religion,—a truly scientific religion,—to those who were capable of receiving them, that the glyphs and symbols, indicative of the finer forces of nature, once of common knowledge, were resurrected and given to the world again. Helena P. Blavatsky was the chosen instrument of the Initiates and the Ego thus incarnated was the Keystone of the Arch of that nucleus of which I have spoken. It was primarily through the efforts of that one entity that it was made possible for Science to corroborate its findings along the line of evolution, to the truly religious mind; yet within the cycle of twenty-five short years many of the members of the organizations subsequently formed have drifted away, in spirit if not in word, from the fundamentals of the instructions given by that brave soul, and have taken up and exploited those features of philosophy against which they were most earnestly warned, and they have taken them up at the instigation of selfish seekers for place and power.

The Slogan of the nucleus formed was "Universal Brotherhood," the Unification of all Peoples. The instructions imparted proved beyond a shadow of doubt to the unbiased mind, that Brotherhood is a fact in nature as well as in spirit. When that fact is ignored by the introduction of creeds and forms and partial truths worse than fallacious in their effects, thus leading to segregation of numbers, recrimination and sore disappointment, the primal effort of the Masters of the White Brotherhood is in jeopardy.

When the solemn obligations taken by the students of life are repudiated or ignored, such students have fallen under the lure of the destructive forces and it is the duty of every true Templar to try to BRING THEM BACK to their starting point as far as it is humanly possible. Refuse to permit any personal equation to distract your minds from the one all important requisite for inter-racial international development on true lines,—constructive lines.

H.

FROM THE GUARDIAN IN CHIEF.

Dear Fellow Disciples:

It is with deep appreciation of the privilege granted me that I give you greeting once again. For those who have traveled the Temple path with me through the twenty yearly cycles that have passed since our work was organized I have no words to express my deep love and devotion. They have been years of hard testing for them as for me, but also years of a comradeship such as is seldom experienced on this earthly plane; and to those comrades of more recent collaboration I can only express the wish that our present and future companionship will result in ties of comradeship just as close and lasting as have been those first mentioned ones, for surely no earthly ties can be more soul satisfying.

That there will be days of sorrow and of losses past telling, and severe testing of our faith—the action of the merciful law—is beyond controversy, but if we can only hold closely together, and be loyal to those we serve, the end will bring us that which will be worth infinitely more than such testing

has cost us. We will never be without help if we will search aright for it; it may not be always such help as we wish for at the moment, but it will be the help for which we stand most in need.

What is before the present races of the earth only God and the great Masters who do His bidding can tell, and it often seems that humanity could illy bear a plain statement regarding the events which must inevitably precede the coming of the Avatar. We have only to cast our mental eyes over the world today to gain some idea of future probabilities. On the other hand, a mental vision of possibilities of an entirely different character is enough to raise the consciousness to a super-normal degree, for there are signs of such a religious awakening as the world has never known—an awakening which will sweep the earth with a passion of Love, Understanding and Brotherhood that will make the very angels rejoice.

That this will come as a final effect of the present great world crisis all true seers are confident. It is only in the interim—the period between the present and the dawn of the new cycle—that there must come days and nights of foreboding and sorrow. However, such periods are our greatest opportunities for the cultivation of Hope, Courage, Devotion and Compassion, and also opportunities for serving to the last degree Those who stand at our backs. Every other object should be made subservient to those ends for only by so doing can we meet the final test which will fall upon all mankind—the test of our ability to recognize the Avatar when he shall come.

This is no time for excess devotion to the study of occult phenomena, *i. e.*, divination, astral vision, telepathy or clairvoyance. These are incidental in comparison, in these days, and will only lead to harm if we have not developed the characteristics which will stand the strain of trial on this outer plane. We are only wasting time and weakening ourselves if we turn to such phenomena alone for guidance while we refuse to use our God-given reason and intuition in such affairs as concern our physical lives, and those lives are of all things the most valuable possessions we have, or at least that we can use to the best advantage in this present cycle. If we do our duty in all ways the interior powers which so greatly attract occultists will be ours, for we shall have won them, and won them fairly.

The man or woman who belittles or despises the opportunities available for any service to mankind, and who does not realize that the opportunities physical life now offers for the gaining of spiritual powers, is not wise in soul knowledge.

If I knew that these were my last words to you while in my present body I could no more earnestly entreat you than I now do to recognize the fact that, however urgent the appeals for help that may come to you from any other source, the first duty of a Templar is to see that the point or source of our inspiration,—the point of contact with our line of spiritual and manasic energy, is made and kept in the best possible condition,—and this center at Halcyon is that point, the point of contact with the Initiates of the White Lodge; in other words, the visible expression of a spiritual generator, by means of which a constant stream of energy is being poured out to all who are in alignment with it. Unless sufficient pains have been taken to discriminate between the energy set free by bodily function and the energy received as a consequence of the said alignment, you will not be aware of the extent of

your indebtedness to this center, and this is true even as a mere matter of self-protection on the physical plane.

If we may be allowed to paraphrase a statement made by St. Peter, we are bought with a price. The Masters are bound by the law of reciprocity even more than are we, and if we do not pay the price demanded by the law, for their help and direction, by making their place of contact here a fitting place for their use, from an outer as well as an inner point of view, we will rob ourselves of much needed power for self protection, as well as of the power to help others in the days fast coming upon us. The Temple is the home of our souls, and its outer expression should have at least a corresponding amount of support and care to that given our material homes.

Before closing I would ask that we all send a happy speeding thought to our comrades who have passed from our field of vision since we last came together, and a tender greeting to all the dear ones at a distance who are with us in thought today. Some of the latter have already gone, others are going into battle fronts and will need our earnest thoughts and prayers.

Only as brave, true comrades in the Army of the Living God can we gain our longed for crowns of immortality, wisdom and power, and so become fit priests and acolytes in His Holy Temple. With an earnest appeal to the Higher Self for His sure guidance in all our ways, let us go forward in faith that all will be well with us.

Faithfully your comrade and sister,

FRANCIA A. LA DUE,
Guardian in Chief.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

"For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself or be cast away?"

Now why a spiritual discourse? Let us have something practical, I hear you say.

You shall have all that is practical, but right here let me say that at this moment there is nothing more practical to be presented to the Temple through the line of the treasury than just these words,—"For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?"

And it is not from any personal whim or special leaning toward spiritual things that this aspect of the treasury is presented to you first, last and at all times, but because this is the force that surges through the department at all times, hours and seasons, and with no uncertain tone. If it were not so, would it, could it be, the treasury of the Temple?

There have been moments, and they have been more powerful than has ever been indicated when the inclination, the temptation has been to cast the spirit away and let the plain, cold, practical, successful business, financial current sweep all else aside, have all the sway it wants.

But, Friends, it would not. Something bigger, deeper, truer, richer, always flooded the former away, always came with the inrushing tide, leaving a deposit on the Temple strand that the true nature seeker, the sincere occultist, the connoisseur of the genuine in jewels rare and valuable would not change for anything offered in its stead.

This may seem perhaps all out of place, all unnecessary—at the most as each one of us feels devotion, interest, sincerity and singleness of purpose tried and sure in regard to all that we may have to offer or suggest to the financial end of the work.

This may be true, individually speaking. It is in the group consciousness that the difficulty enters in. For each one of us being sure of our own sincerity, devotion, interest, clearness of vision, practical ability, has difficulty in recognizing the same spirit in others and so the knot pulls *tight*, first this way, then that, and the struggle of the hour, the battle between opposing forces enters in and the most painstaking, skillful care must be taken, the purest light of the Lodge be allowed to play upon the situation while the tangle is being cleared lest the cord be broken, the wrapping loosed and the contents of the jewel case be scattered altogether and there be nothing left but an empty box, valuable of course as a precious box, but only as a box containing no jewels, of no advantage to the Lodge, without soul, fit only to be cast away.

Not long past, and partly because of it, I have emphasized what has already been given in this report, for it had its setting in convention, there came a vision distinct, strong, powerful in that it brought a force like lightning and like thunder crashing.

Simplifying the vision, the money force had entered in. One point was set against another as to the right concept of how the monies were to be raised and disbursed, and they were set against one another with such degree of agitation that it was necessary for all to recognize, when a voice spoke, saying, "The curse of the whole situation is that it should have entered into the Temple at all," and the force of the voice was as lightning and the shock of the force was such that it required extreme strength of will to keep erect while the assimilation of it was taking place. During this time there were two of the Temple, two diametrically opposite in qualities, temperament, in methods of work, force who seemed to have been drawn close in the crisis, close in understanding and sympathy, as if to indicate if opposite souls could come together in true understanding, the situation would be saved; and another whose light is beyond doubt the light of another plane radiated this light with particular intensity saying in terms of force, "Be Still—let no personal force enter in, be still."

You may interpret this as you wish. You may give it import as you deem fit. But let us not be too sure that we shall escape the strife that is but beginning in regard to the money problem which we have been placed here to solve, a problem not to be despised, but to be recognized as the synthetic subject for mastery on this plane of matter, the at-one-ment of personal will to Higher Will, individual energy amalgamated with Higher energy, in that faith which we have been told is the secret of the Parable of the Grain of Mustard.

The books have been carefully balanced by both the treasurer and the assistant scribe. The expenses have been classified accurately and are listed for your attention. The liabilities are noted for your consideration. You will remember that this has been a year extraordinary in every respect the world over and you will be grateful that the Temple has pulled through with its colors still floating to the breeze of The God of the Higher Airs. You will be startled at the lack of funds donated for headquarters support. This does not mean, of course, that there have been no other contributions sent to the Temple for such purpose. It is one of the instances of difference of idea

as to the best channels for sending such funds. You will notice also that other departments of the work are channels for receiving donations. You know, too, there are offerings to the work not acknowledged through these books, because of belonging to definite orders. It is just to the membership to bear these things in mind when listening to the annual report of the general treasury.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 15, 1918.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS AND LIABILITIES.		
Dues and ARTISAN subscriptions		$ 544.80	Printing of ARTISAN		$ 571.85
Helping Hand		442.63	Other printed matter		38.96
Cash on hand July 15, 1917		50.97	Paper, neostyle and office		116.59
			Postage		74.14
			Print Shop Expenses—		
		$1,038.40	Mr. Sterling, wages	$67.50	
Deficit		61.71	Electric power	14.02	81.52
			Express for ARTISAN		23.94
			Headquarters expense—		
			F. A. La Due		32.00
			1917 Convention expense		40.80
			Liabilities:		
			Bill, Carruth & Carruth for ARTISAN	$105.00	
			Zellerbach & Co., for paper	15.31	120.31
		$1,100.11	Total		$1,100.11

This is the summing up of the year's work. I would that you could know the splendid spirit that has been manifested by those helping to make the sum total just read. I would that you could know the wondrous spirit of those who have given their all, who have expressed their willingness to resign because of inability to contribute financially. I would that you could know some of the conditions under which certain members are laboring and singing as they go. I am sure you would agree with me that they are participating in a very positive way in the great world war.

And before closing I would like to call your attention to the songs that have gone forth through the Helping Hand during the year. They have done a very definite work and they are doing an unseen work that will count as we go along. They have passed outside the ranks in many instances and many letters of appreciation have been received from most unexpected points in regard to them. A number of them have been sung publicly, both in church and elsewhere. We may be sure we never will fail while we sing the messages of Light.

We may know that "The New Year of the soul will be sure to come not only to us, but to the world as a whole when the Lord will call for our gems of rich experience that He may set them in a Crown to mark our victory over our great enemy, ourselves."

JANE W. DOWER.

BY THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

In love, I give you greeting, my Comrades:

When the Temple work was inaugurated in 1898, we were told that it was to be a Cycle of Preparation preceding the Coming of the Avatar of the Sixth Race; that the Cycle would be of thirty years' duration, during which time we would be under the direction of the Lodge, through the Master Hilarion especially, since He was the Annunciator. We were also told that while the Masters would direct us, we must be their hands and feet, and that as we proved faithful, competent and obedient to their instructions and directions, would They be able to perfect the work, the result of which would affect the humanity of this earth for ages to come. Twenty years have passed; the last ten years of the Cycle open. All about us sound the blasts and the roar of the battle which precedes His Coming; we hear the screams of pain and the sound of breaking hearts as the earthly form of the humanity of the Fifth Race is crucified. But nearer and nearer draws the Christos in the Form of the Avatar of the Sixth Race, and those who listen catch the undertones of Love, the murmur of Peace, the Song of Joy past all telling, which ring beneath the cries of pain. And there is a new note; a tone which the Fifth Race Humanity has rarely sounded and from which it shrinks; yet that note is greater far than all the notes we yet have struck, and it is called JUSTICE. He who is to come sent to us this message:

"A little hour is left thee to tear down the bars 'twixt thee and me, my child, to widen out the spaces in thine heart and make room, e'er falls the day I come with *Scales* of *Justice* in my hands. I, who cry to thee, must leave the Wand of Mercy far behind when weighted with the heavy Scales I bear, and in that day the choice will be no longer thine or mine, but His who sends me and who rules alike o'er all."

"E'er falls that day I come with Scales of Justice in my hands;" it may be that "Justice" is the "Word" to be spoken by the Sixth Race. We know it to be the perfect working of the Law. Heretofore we have been upheld and protected by the Masters of Wisdom while learning to speak the "Word" of the Fifth Race,—"Love" or Brotherhood. Now he calls to us: "I, who cry to thee, must leave the Wand of Mercy far behind when weighted with the heavy Scales I bear," and we should listen well and be about Our Father's business. Only ten years remain in the Cycle given to Him for accomplishment through His Group; our success is His success; our failure is His failure. Knowing this, cannot we who have received so much, arouse ourselves and make that last ten years reflect in *terms* of *matter* that which He has given to us in Terms of Spirit?

When the opportunity to build the White City, the "Place of Refuge for the Coming Avatar," became ours, a terrible responsibility was placed upon us. We were told that, "No single individual can organize and carry out the details of that great work. None save those who inhabited the prototypic city could by Karmic Right complete and occupy the White City. *Collectively*, these must assume the responsibility, even should they allow another long cycle to roll back into the eternities before its final accomplishment. But if the building of this city be deterred, so will the evolution of the people themselves and of mankind as a whole."—H.

Are we going to allow "another long cycle to roll back into the eternities"

before we face ourselves, and the conditions we both have and have not builded; before we enter the arena of battle to build our portion of the White City? Just the Faith to enter, to commence the building, would set in motion such forces that nothing could stand in the way; for when the lowest arc of a cycle has been struck, the constructive force must commence working, and that lowest arc has been struck, and we MUST be at work or the balance will be lost. *Now* is the time; *now* lies before us the Great Day of Construction! Will you let it pass unheeded?

The Master also has said to us: "Unless the Temple can be made the refuge of the hunted, the resting place of the weary, the home of the homeless, it must fail in its mission, as has every other institution originated and formed by Masters or man." Again: "Is it likely that this can occur in an age when the land, WHICH SHOULD BE AS FREE AS THE AIR, has been seized and held as personal property?" Here we have clearly stated the foundation stones on which our work rests, Open Doors and Economic Justice. Shall we not emplace these stones in the Temple Foundation here and NOW? If but a few will have the courage and the faith to do this, the Cyclic Law now ripe, will carry their efforts to the highest point. Only ten years more! Are there not those who are ready to lay down, not only money, but life itself if need be, for the Avataric Cause? Are we less loyal, less determined, less selfless, than those splendid boys of ours who march to the battle front, singing, and lay down their lives for the human race? Can we give less than our beloved Leaders? Have they refused any sacrifice, any suffering? Who are we that we should stand aside from that sacrifice, that suffering, while the Masters plead with us to do that which should be a great joy, a great privilege to do? We pray that a few loyal, enduring and understanding souls will Come Home and help to build the White City, the Home of the Avatar of the Sixth Race.

The Correspondence Course Division of the Publicity Department has been very active the past year; many students are enrolled in the Section for the General Public and now and again we are surprised by the depth of unfoldment in some student that seems miraculous in its suddenness. True it is that much is given to those who sincerely try. We have carried several students, in this Section, who are unable to make any monetary returns for the work. Those who need, receive.

A new course of instruction is in preparation containing that which we have received concerning the Coming of the Avatar.

The financial report for the year ending July 31, 1918, is as follows:

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
Christmas Messages	$ 101.11	General Expenses (Mimeograph supplies, paper, water rent)	$ 64.59
Correspondence Courses	176.45	Library	34.29
Library	34.90	Stamps	150.02
Open Court Students	36.67	Halcyon Book Concern	18.75
Order 36 (Stamps)	8.92	ARTISAN Subscriptions	8.00
Sale of Propaganda Literature	3.09	Moneys to the Guardian-in-	
Unsolicited offerings	70.19		

Book Orders received	18.75	Chief	87.00
Artisan Subscriptions	8.00	Deficit of 1917 paid	37.89
Moneys received for and offerings given to the Guardian-in-Chief	87.00	Total	$ 400.54
		Cash on Hand	144.54
Total	$ 545.08	Total	$ 545.08

The books of the department are open to the inspection of interested members at all times.

Sarah A. Merrell Briggs.

BY THE TEMPLE SCRIBE.

On looking back over the past year with a view to determining the keynote, so to speak, of its particular vibration, I find myself lifted out of the level of concrete achievement and feel that the accomplishments of the past twelve months, while considerable even in material things, are really very great in inner ways.

The Center at Halcyon has attained a very strong base in unity and devotion among its members, and there is every indication that this force is spreading out into the world through the various channels of connection in ever widening circles. We have indeed reasons to be hopeful for the possibilities of the coming year.

In the early days we laid a good deal of stress on form and externals. When we were told to establish certain unit orders, much importance was placed upon the details and organization, etc.; and it was only after years of trial that we were brought to our present stage of realization that the essential requirements of membership in the inner orders of the Temple have very little to do with externals. We now see that our mental attitude is the principal thing, that to be a stone in the Temple wall means that we must be able and ready to allow ourselves to be placed where the Builder thinks we should go, not where we think the Builder should place us.

The great fight between what we desire to do and what we are required to do takes place again and again, and each time that the snake of self is conquered by our higher Self it springs on us again in a new body. Many and very subtle are the enemies which we must meet and conquer, and we must be ever on the alert that self does not throw us off the Path we have elected to follow. The great problem of coming to distinguish between the promptings of our personal self and our inner Self must be conquered again and again; and as each conquest is made we are automatically admitted into an inner order of the Temple.

This means that we automatically and of divine right take on our shoulders a little more of the burden of the world. No one has the power to give us this privilege, we must win it alone; and no one can take it from us, for when won it is a part of ourselves. Selfless devotion to the ideal and integrity of purpose are the weapons required to win one's way to the real inner degrees of the Great White Temple of Light.

Ernest Harrison.

BY THE OFFICIAL HEAD.

DEAR TEMPLE COMRADES:

From an inner or occult standpoint this Temple Centre is a Window through which the Light of the Lodge of Masters shines into the world, or we may call it a sensitive point in the Great Iron Wall of selfishness that shuts out humanity from the inner light, love and life of the Logos. These openings or sensitive points are necessary in the evolution of the world or it would shrivel up, for all things and creatures get their life from the Inner Spheres. The Temple is such an opening through which for the past twenty years the regenerating forces of the Masters of Light have poured for helping the world in many fields of action. These forces have poured forth into the aura of humanity striking on thousands of minds in all parts of the earth and moving them to thought and action along lines that prepare the way for the Light of the new Messianic Cycle.

It was inevitable that with the impingement on the aura of the planet of the Avatar Force, there should be a vast karmic precipitation that would burn up all the karmic dregs of the old cycle.

This is now being done and it would seem as a result as if humanity had temporarily lost its balance, but underneath all, the reconstructive forces are at work, the fruits of which will quickly appear when the era of destruction is over.

There is a way in which we can all help in the work of regeneration and reconstruction, namely by holding in mind and feeling interiorly and exteriorly, a BALANCED CONSCIOUSNESS. That is, by putting forth vital images of poise and harmony in and for all humanity.

If we wish to create a form into which these vital forces may energize, we can imagine a WHITE CROSS OF BALANCE, cosmical in size with its arms embracing all humanity. This Cross of Balance image should be realized as of the purest, whitest radiance and as a Form into which the highest aspirations, thoughts and ideals of Love, Unity and Brotherhood, of all people may be attracted and energized for expression in the lives of the races of the earth.

This White Cross of Balance thus becomes a powerful Centre—a perfectly constructed *vehicle or machine* through which the most potent forces may radiate Balance, Poise, Harmony, Unity, and Love to all creatures. Image the Centre of this White Cross as in the heart of all beings. Herein is a Way in which all can work in helping to regenerate the earth and so bring about Universal Peace and Brotherhood.

What is now occurring in the world is the "squaring of accounts" between the nations prophesied by Blavatsky many years ago. She also said that all human conditions and institutions not based on natural law would be overthrown. We see evidence of this everywhere today in what all the nations of the earth are compelled to do by necessity.

Religiously, Politically and Economically we shall have a new world after the great war is over. It is an Armageddon that is being fought out—an Armageddon of false ideals and systems that has oppressed man for ages. A New Light is coming, a new star appearing in the Heavens. And this brings up the vital absorbing question. How will the Avatar appear? Will He come in form visible to all human eyes or only to the few who are attuned? Will he be only visible on an inner plane and powerfully project

his forces into the hearts and lives of humanity impelling them by irresistible urge to move in the right direction of rebuilding the world on a natural and divine basis? Or will he appear suddenly in power and glory at some great crisis and save the world in a way that will be visible to all? The future holds the answer to these questions and we will know when the hour has come.

For several years past in my annual reports I have referred to Temple prophecies because they have been working out under our eyes and they were all important. I wish to refer to them again briefly this year but with only one thought at this time in view, namely, that the fulfillment of these phophecies will bring about inevitably a condition of Universal Peace through a League of Nations to enforce such Peace, and thus establish the FIRST CONCRETE STEP in the formation of a practical Brotherhood of Man on earth. For it should be self evident that before we can have a condition of Universal Brotherhood, we must first have a condition of permanent Universal Peace.

"The Bear will growl at the Lion. The Eagle will alight on the Bear's head and pluck out its left eye. The Ox and the Lion will close in a struggle to the death. The Eagle, the Bear, the Ox and the Lion will form a Square in the midst of which will arise the Architect who will rule the earth."

The growl of the Lion has turned to the purr of a cat. The purr of the Cat has awakened a sleeping Snake which will strike its fangs into the heel of the Lion when the Lion turns to gather the spoils. The Ox has regained the seminals of a Bull. The Bull is pawing the earth to open the way for the fiery hosts. The Eagle has closed the wound in the Bear's left eye and loaned the Bear its wings for swift flight.

The Lion, the Bear, the Ox, the Eagle, the Bull and the Snake will form the Hexagon—the sixth—from which the Square—the Fourth—will arise to build the Corner-stone for the feet of the Architect to rest upon.

Here then we see years ago the prophecy made that a League of Nations to bring about Universal Peace on earth would be formed; and the Master has said all would come to pass as "it was written on the inner Light."

THE PAST YEAR.

The Past Temple year has been as good as we had a right to expect in view of world conditions, and many new members have been added to our ranks during the past twelve months.

THE PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT

The Propaganda Department has kept up its good and efficient work in spreading knowledge of the Temple work. This Department is our point of contact with souls searching for the Light and the Path that leads to the way home to their own Ray. In addition this Department sends all the correspondence courses which are instructions on fundamental Temple teachings, as well as on the more elementary studies.

THE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

This vital and important work goes steadily on. Many children in various parts of the country are enrolled and are studying the lessons and keeping in touch with the Centre as scores of letters testify. There can be no more important work than with the children, for they must take up the work after us.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There will be no Mystery Play this year. It has been deemed advisable to omit it on account of the lack of singers and musical talent available and because of the expense entailed. The trying times now on demand conservation of force in every way. The plan of the Mystery plays, however, has not been given up and they will be resumed perhaps next year if conditions are suitable.

The booklet "Occultism for Beginners," is selling well in all parts of the country and seems to be a vehicle designed to call attention to The Temple work favorably and strongly as its circulation extends.

In conclusion I would call attention to the economic teachings of the Temple. This economic side is all important and the Temple ever seeks to promote right economic ideas and ideals. There are with us today several deep students of economics, namely, Luke North, Sidney Hillyard and P. K. Mohr. We shall expect to hear them at the Economic Meeting representing this phase of our work. As Mr. North will only be with us today we will ask him to speak on that before we adjourn. As we have pointed out before, the economic link is the weak link in our social structure, and there can be no real permanent advance until that link is strengthened. Coincident with the perfect equality of man and woman there must be a perfect equilibration and co-ordination of Right Religion, Right Philosophy, Right Economics and Right Politics, and when this obtains we shall have a Universal Brotherhood on the earth.

WILLIAM H. DOWER.

Mr. Luke North then gave a most vitally interesting talk on Single Tax. As no notes were taken it is impossible to give the substance of the talk in this report.

The Mantrams were then recited, the Consecration Hymn sung and the meeting adjourned.

(Report of Proceedings will be continued in October number.)

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